

## **CAPSULE SUMMARY**

**BA-379**

**Gray Dawn Farm**

**6232 Deer Park Road**

**Reisterstown, Baltimore County**

**Circa 1820**

**Private**

Constructed circa 1820, the Gray Dawn Farm is located in the Second District of Baltimore County between the village of Tyler in the west and Reisterstown in the east. Reisterstown, a turnpike town located at the intersection of roads leading to Baltimore, Westminster, and Hanover, is named for John Reister, who settled the area in 1758. On the 1850 Sidney Map, Gray Dawn Farm is denoted as the residence of Sylvester Baseman and, according to the Hopkins Atlas, the Baseman family still owned the farm in 1877. During this time the town's population doubled from 500 in 1850, to 1000 by 1896 and contained a number of community organizations. In 1915, when the growth of the community slowed, the Bromley Atlas denotes N. Noyler as the owner of the property.

Facing North and sited back from Deer Park Road on a flat grassy lot, this two-story, three-bay, Greek Revival dwelling was constructed circa 1820. The random-rubble foundation and walls are constructed with local fieldstone and feature stone quoins. The three bays, two-story porch shades the recessed central entry and two 2-leaf, 2-light French doors. The flat porch roof is supported on wood Tuscan columns and pilasters. The center recessed entry features a wood paneled door beneath a 6-light transom flanked by two-light sidelights. The façade features three 6/6 double-hung wood sash windows, one of which is in the central section of a projecting canted-bay on the second story. Two interior-end stone chimneys rise above the asphalt shingle clad side gable roof. Other features of the dwelling include stone sills and lintels, overhanging eaves, and a wood soffit. A one-story wood-frame addition with a half-hipped roof extends from the west elevation and a two-story wood-frame addition is located at the rear of the house. The property includes three historic buildings, one non-historic building, and one non-historic structure.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA- 379

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Gray Dawn Farm

other

### 2. Location

street and number 6232 Deer Park Road not for publication

city, town Reisterstown vicinity

county Baltimore County

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Symcha & Joan F. Shpak

street and number Box 461 telephone Not Available

city, town Neavitt state MD zip code 21652

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 57, 286

city, town Towson liber 9715 folio 144

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
- ☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- ☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
- ☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report
- ☐ Other

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	4 1
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	1
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	5
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			1

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## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA- 379

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### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

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Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Dating to circa 1820, this two-story, three-bay, Greek Revival dwelling, accessible by a gravel driveway, is sited back from Deer Park Road on a level, grassy farmstead with trees, shrubs and foundation plantings. The random-rubble foundation and walls are constructed with local stone and the feature stone quoins. The center recessed entry features a wood paneled door beneath a six-light transom, and flanked by two-light sidelights. Flanking the main entrance are two-leaf French doors. The second story features a projecting canted-bay window with paneling and a 6/6 double-hung wood sash window, set between two 6/6 double-hung wood sash window. Each opening has a stone sill and wide stone lintel. Across the façade is a two-story Greek Revival-style porch. It is supported with wood Tuscan columns and pilasters. It features a flat roof and a plain wood cornice. The house has overhanging eaves with a wood soffit and a side-gable roof clad with asphalt shingles. Two interior end stone chimneys rise above the roof.

A one-story wood-frame addition, circa 1920, extends from the west elevation. Sitting on a random rubble foundation, the addition has a half-hipped roof with asphalt shingles. A second addition, constructed during the last half of the twentieth century, extends from the rear elevation. This wood-frame addition sits on a stone foundation and is clad in aluminum siding.

The property includes three historic buildings, one non-historic building, and one non-historic structure. A small one story, one-bay smokehouse, circa 1820, is constructed with local stone, and features stone quoins. The center entry contains a vertical-board door with a large stone lintel. The front gable is covered with asphalt shingles. The roof of this structure is not original and features a wood cornice, overhanging eaves and exposed rafters. A wood frame, two-story, five-bay dairy barn, circa 1870, is clad with wood weatherboards. The barn features overhanging eaves with exposed rafters supporting a side gable, standing-seam metal roof. A stone ramp leads to the sliding vertical board doors. A wood frame, board-and-batten stable dates circa 1900. The stable has a boxed wood cornice, overhanging eaves, exposed rafters and a side-gable roof with asphalt shingles. This building also features a braced vertical board sliding door.

The non-historic structures include a wood-frame silo with a metal dome roof, and a circa 1970 wood-frame single dwelling resting on a concrete block foundation. This two-and-a-half story dwelling is clad in aluminum siding and capped with a side gable roof with asphalt shingles. The house has an exterior-end brick chimney, and a second story wood gallery with turned posts. A shed roof addition was constructed to the side elevation.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA- 379

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

**Specific dates** 1820 ca. **Architect/Builder** unknown

**Construction dates** 1820 ca.

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Set back from the road and facing north, the Gray Dawn Farm was constructed circa 1820 near the historic village of Tyler on the west and Reisterstown on the east. This farm is located in the Second District of Baltimore County. The 18th century community of Reisterstown is named for John Reister, who settled "Reister's Desire" in 1758. Shortly thereafter he laid out Reister's Town Road, along which he established a tavern for travelers passing through on their way to Baltimore. Reisterstown was strategically located at the intersection of roads leading to Baltimore, Westminster, and Hanover, thus lending importance to the community as a turnpike town. In the 1810s, the condition of Reisterstown Road significantly improved when the Baltimore and Reisterstown Turnpike Company completed construction along the route. (1) By 1850, Reisterstown's importance along the turnpike was evident by the considerable development of the community. Numerous buildings, including dwellings, taverns, and other commercial structures, were located along the Reisterstown Turnpike. Immediately north of the intersection of the Reisterstown Turnpike and the Westminster Turnpike was the tavern operated by Jeremiah Ducker. (2) At that time, the town's population had reached 500, and Reisterstown appeared slated for further growth. (3) By 1881, the population had reached 600, and establishments in the town included one public school, three private schools, three seminaries, Catholic, Lutheran, and Methodist Episcopal churches, and several fraternal and benevolent orders. (4) By 1896, the population had reached 1,000. (5) The 1915 county atlas indicates that further growth in the community slowed. By that time, the neighboring communities of Delight and Owings Mills began to expand on the south side of Reisterstown. (6) Through the 20th century, the town has become a suburb of Baltimore City.

The Gray Dawn Farm is denoted on the 1850 Sidney Map as the residence of Sylvester Baseman. (7) In 1877, S.W. Baseman, was shown on the Hopkins Atlas. (8) The 1915 Bromley Atlas denotes N. Noyler at this property along Deer Park Road. (9)

### ENDNOTES

1. Neal A. Brooks and Eric G. Rockel, A History of Baltimore County (Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979), pp. 49-50.
2. J.C. Sidney, Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).
3. Brooks and Rockel, p. 308.
4. J. Thomas Scharf, History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men (Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA), p. 855.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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5. Brooks and Rockel, 308.
6. Map of Baltimore County (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).
7. Sidney Atlas, 1850.
8. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland (Philadelphia: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).
9. Bromley Atlas, 1915.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. BA- 379

See continuation sheet.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 10.72 acres

Acreage of historical setting unknown

Quadrangle name Reisterstown

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Gray Dawn Farm, constructed circa 1820, is located at 6232 Deer Park Road in the Second District of Baltimore County. It has historically been associated with tax map 57 parcel 286 since its construction.

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title K. Baynard & J. Riggle, Architectural Historians

organization E.H.T. Traceries

date 8/22/02

street and number 1121 5th Street NW

telephone 202/393-1199

city or town Washington

state DC zip code 20001

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032  
410-514-7600

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Continuation Sheet

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Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.

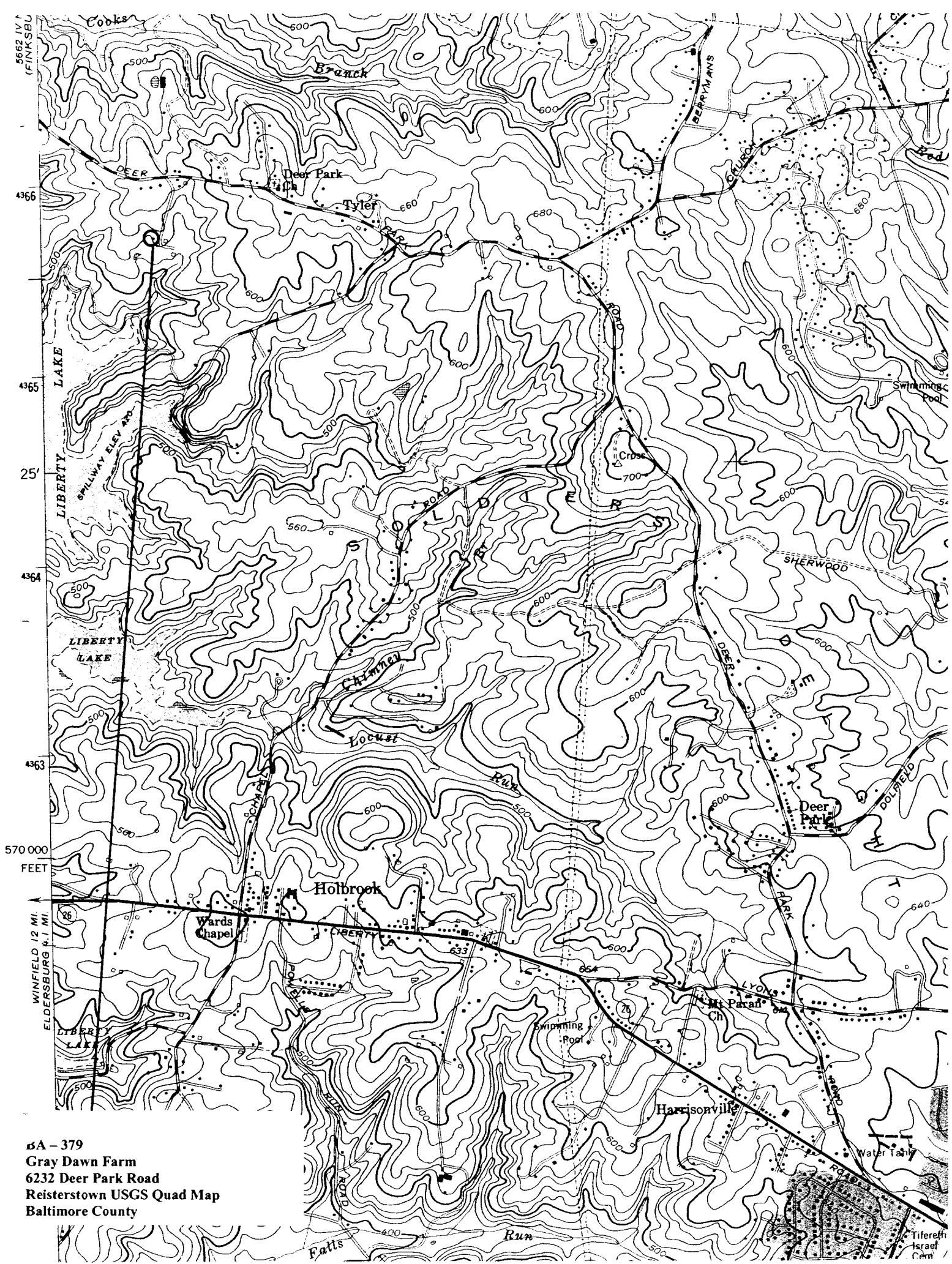
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. A History of Baltimore County. Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.

Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men. Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.

Sidney, J. C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.



6A-379  
Gray Dawn Farm  
6232 Deer Park Road  
Reisterstown USGS Quad Map  
Baltimore County





BA-379

GRAY DAWN FARM

6232 DEER PARK ROAD

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

8/2002

MD SHPO

HOUSE, NORTH ELEVATION

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BA 379

GRAY DAWN FARM

6232 DEER PARK ROAD

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERIES

8/2002

MD SHPO

DAIRY BARN SILO AND STABLE, VIEW LOOKING  
SOUTHEAST

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